

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, starting at line 12 as follows:

AI In addition, as illustrated in Fig. 2, each node 100 (~~or AMP~~) includes multiple virtual processors (VPROC) 104, which include parsing engines (PEs) and access module processors (AMPs). More than one PE or AMP can run in each node. PEs handle access requests, which are in the form of SQL (Standard Query Language) statements, and generates executable steps that are performed in one or more AMPs. Each AMP is responsible for a logical disk space, referred to as a virtual disk (VDISK), which includes one or more storage devices 106. The concept of VPROCs and VDISKS enable a larger amount of parallelism in the parallel system 14.